

Abstract of Antwerp conference:

Initial Validation of NDVI time series from AVHRR, VEGETATION, and MODIS

Jeffrey T. Morisette (1), Jorge E. Pinzon (2), Molly E. Brown (2), Jim Tucker (1) and Christopher O. Justice (3)

(1) NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Laboratory for Terrestrial Physics, Greenbelt Maryland, USA

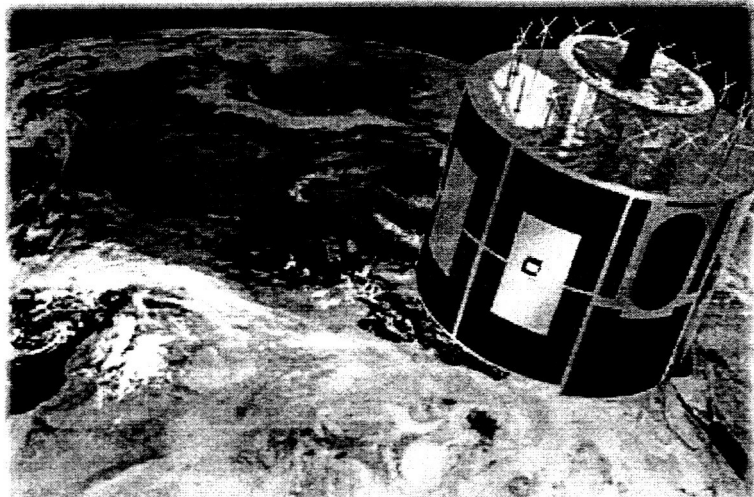
(2) Science Systems Application, Inc., NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt Maryland, USA

(3) University of Maryland, Geography, College Park, Maryland, USA

The paper will address *Theme 7: Multi-sensor opportunities for VEGETATION*. We present analysis of a long-term vegetation record derived from three moderate resolution sensors: AVHRR, VEGETATION, and MODIS. While empirically based manipulation can ensure agreement between the three data sets, there is a need to validate the series. This paper uses atmospherically corrected ETM+ data available over the EOS Land Validation Core Sites as an independent data set with which to compare the time series. We use ETM+ data from 15 globally distributed sites, 7 of which contain repeat coverage in time. These high-resolution data are compared to the values of each sensor by spatially aggregating the ETM+ to each specific sensors' spatial coverage. The aggregated ETM+ value provides a point estimate for a specific site on a specific date. The standard deviation of that point estimate is used to construct a confidence interval for that point estimate. The values from each moderate resolution sensor are then evaluated with respect to that confident interval.

Result show that AVHRR, VEGETATION, and MODIS data can be combined to assess temporal uncertainties and address data continuity issues and that the atmospherically corrected ETM+ data provide an independent source with which to compare that record. The final product is a consistent time series climate record that links historical observations to current and future measurements.

Keywords: SPOT VEGETATION, AVHRR, MODIS, ETM+, Climate Data Records, Inter-sensor comparison, validation.



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**Global Geostationary Fire Monitoring Applications
A Joint GOFC/GOLD Fire and CEOS LVP Workshop
March 23-25, 2004, EUMETSAT, Darmstadt, Germany**

The Global Observations of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC/GOLD) Fire program and the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Land Product Validation (LPV) Working Group plan to hold a joint workshop on *Geostationary Fire Monitoring Applications*. The workshop will be hosted by the EUROpean Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological SATellites (EUMETSAT) in Darmstadt, Germany on March 23-25, 2004. Participants will include geostationary program managers and representatives from operational agencies, algorithm developers, data providers and users, validation scientists, and GOFC network representatives.

The GOFC/GOLD (Global Observations of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics) project provides a forum for international exchange of information, observation and data coordination, and serves as a framework for establishing long-term monitoring systems. The GOFC/GOLD Fire Mapping and Monitoring Theme is primarily focused on determining international observation requirements and making the best use of products from existing and future satellite systems for fire management, policy decision-making and global change research (see <http://gofc-fire.umd.edu/index.asp>). A specific goal of the GOFC/GOLD-Fire program is to develop and foster the implementation of a near real-time operational global geostationary fire monitoring network using GOES, MSG and MTSAT data to monitor fires as they occur and capture the diurnal signature. In addition, this workshop will address other applications of geostationary satellites for fire risk assessment and post-fire changes in surface characteristics including the use of albedo products. Accuracy assessment is a vital and necessary component in the implementation of a global geostationary fire monitoring network.

Meeting Goals and Objectives:

The overall goal of the workshop is to discuss, plan and coordinate the development and eventual implementation of a global operational geostationary fire monitoring applications system. The primary workshop deliverable will be a report outlining the design of the global geostationary monitoring system and initial plans for implementation. Specific objectives and topics of discussion include the following:

- 1.) review current and future geostationary satellite sensors (GOES, MSG, MTSAT) and capabilities for active fire detection and pre- and post-fire monitoring applications (e.g. fire risk, surface albedo monitoring, and burned area mapping with MSG HRV);
- 2.) identify global/regional user product requirements, specifications, and applications;
- 3.) review algorithm development activities, product generation, and availability;
- 4.) evaluate the feasibility of a coordinated near real-time global geostationary fire monitoring applications system;
- 5.) develop timeline and list of participants involved in the implementation of a global geostationary monitoring system;
- 6.) identify validation activities;
- 7.) discuss ways to generate integrated polar and geostationary products for enhanced global monitoring.

Workshop Format:

The format of the workshop will consist of plenary sessions and discussion sessions. Plenary sessions will include invited presentations on specific topics/objectives. The discussion sessions will focus on specific issues as they relate to geostationary fire monitoring applications and the development and implementation of a global geostationary fire monitoring network.

Contact and Registration Information:

For additional information please contact the workshop co-chairs: Yves Govaerts (Govaerts@eumetsat.de) or Elaine Prins (elaine.prins@ssec.wisc.edu). Please return the registration form to Elaine Prins by February 26, 2004 via email or fax.

Elaine Prins, NOAA/NESDIS/ORA
Grass Valley, CA, USA
Tel: +1-530-271-2256
Fax: same as phone
Email: elaine.prins@ssec.wisc.edu



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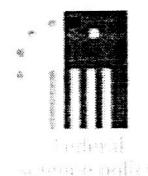
FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

VEGETATION - ANTWERP - 2004
INTERNATIONAL USERS CONFERENCE



March 24th - 26th, 2004
Antwerp, Belgium

International SPOT 4/5 - VEGETATION users Conference under the
auspices of
OSTC / CNES / SNSB / ASI / EC



Last update : 2003/12/06



SCOPE

Monitoring the state of our planet and its resources is becoming more and more important with the increasing awareness of environmental issues, e.g. (Kyoto protocol, GMES initiative, GEO, ...

To meet the need for information, the VEGETATION mission offers the international remote sensing and user community a truly Global Earth Observing System endowed with high performance standards.

The success of the VEGETATION mission since its beginning in 1998 was confirmed with the successful launch of SPOT5/VEGETATION2 in May 2002. VEGETATION products older than 3 months are now available free of charge since October 2001. The VEGETATION mission now, more than ever, provides a viable as well as vital capacity for operational satellite based, global and continuous monitoring of the Earth's surface for the benefit of a large and diverse user's community.

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This Conference is the second dedicated forum where users of the SPOT4/5-VEGETATION 1 and 2 data have the opportunity to present the results of their research and development efforts as well as their operational applications, and exchange experiences and expectations. It aims to present, through presentations, exhibitions and poster sessions, the broad range of applications and services now developed with VEGETATION sensor products to scientists, commercial and institutional end users.

Applications relate to the monitoring of agriculture, forest, rangeland, land cover change, the assessment of biosphere productivity as well as the biogeophysical characterisation of the earth's terrestrial surfaces. The joint operation of the two VEGETATION instruments makes it possible to develop new types of applications e.g., snow cover characterisation as well as oceanographic and atmospheric applications. Besides applications, innovative algorithm developments are presented.

The target audience for this conference are current and potential users of VEGETATION products: scientists, commercial and institutional end users, as well as policy makers.

To obtain free VEGETATION products, visit the URL:

<http://free.vgt.vito.be>



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UCL, Belgium
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Metria, Sweden
Vito, Belgium



HOTEL ACCOMODATION

't Elzenveld Hotel

20 rooms are available in the Elzenveld hotel. 't Elzenveld, a former convent, is established in the medieval St. Elisabeth's Hospital and located in the heart of Antwerp centre. This building complex is a haven of tranquillity with several beautiful inner gardens and closed off from the busy city by the surrounding historic buildings.

You can make your reservation by using the **booking form** and mentioning "VEGETATION"

Lange Gasthuisstraat 45 - 2000 Antwerp - Tel: 32 3 202 77 70 - Fax: 32 3 202 77 75

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The Ibis Hotel

We reserved 30 rooms in hotel Ibis at a reduced price as mentioned in the booking form. The hotel is located in the historical and commercial centre of Antwerp, right on the famous "Vogelenmarkt" next to the city theatre. From Ibis it is a 5 minutes walk to the Elzenveld, where the conference is held.

You can make your reservation by using the booking form (**English** / **Nederlands**) and mentioning "VEGETATION"

Meistraat 39 - 2000 Antwerpen - Tel: 32 3 231 88 30 - Fax: 32 3 234 29 21

The Alfa Theater Hotel

In this hotel we booked 20 rooms. The hotel is situated at approximately 500 metres of the Elzenveld location and is also near the city theatre. You can make your reservation by using the booking form (**English** / **Nederlands**) and mentioning "VEGETATION"

Arenbergstraat 30 - 2000 Antwerpen - Tel: 32 3 203 54 10 - Fax: 32 3 233 88 58